

Amendments to the claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A printing apparatus for carrying out the printing of print jobs transmitted from a host device in order of receipt, said apparatus comprising:

a queue management unit that holds a plural print jobs to which ~~a password is~~ passwords are attached and which ~~is~~ are transmitted from said host device together with normal print jobs, for which no password entry is required, in a queue, and that manages the order of all print jobs, until said ~~password is~~ passwords are entered; and

a control unit for sequentially carrying out, upon entry of the passwords, each of which is a password associated with a single password-attached print job, a plurality of said jobs being held in said queue, the printing of said ~~for one or more of the password-attached print jobs that are being held, the printing of the~~ password-attached print jobs in order of entry of the passwords and in preference over the normal print jobs, which require no password entry, that are waiting for print.

Claim 2 (previously presented): The printing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said control unit stores the password-attached print jobs in said queue in a print hold status, moves a password-attached print job for which the password has been entered to the end of print jobs stored in said queue while releasing the print hold status, and carries out the printing of the password-attached print jobs for which the passwords have been entered in order of release of said print hold status.

Claim 3 (previously presented): The printing apparatus according to claim 1, comprising:

clock means for clocking a predetermined time from the performance of the printing of said password-attached print job to the performance of the printing of the next password-attached print job, wherein

said control unit, having completed one password-attached print job, carries out the printing of the next password-attached print job at least after said predetermined time has been clocked by said clock means.

Claim 4 (previously presented): The printing apparatus according to claim 2, comprising:

clock means for clocking a predetermined time from the performance of the printing of said password-attached print job to the performance of the printing of the next password-attached print job, wherein

said control unit, having completed one password-attached print job, carries out the printing of the next password-attached print job at least after said predetermined time has been clocked by said clock means.

Claim 5 (previously presented): The printing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said control unit comprises a pointer for indicating the end of the password-attached print jobs stored in said queue.

Claim 6 (previously presented): The printing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said control unit comprises a pointer for indicating the end of said normal print jobs stored in said queue.

Claim 7 (previously presented): The printing apparatus according to claims 1, wherein said control unit stores the password-attached print jobs towards the head of a single queue, and stores said normal print jobs following said password-attached print jobs, said control unit comprising pointers at the end of said password-attached print jobs and at the end of said normal print jobs.

Claim 8 (previously presented): The printing apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising a display unit for displaying a list of the password-attached print jobs that are stored in said queue in print hold status.

Claim 9 (previously presented): The printing apparatus according to claim 3, wherein said control unit comprises a pointer for indicating the end of the password-attached print jobs stored in said queue.

Claim 10 (previously presented): The printing apparatus according to claims 3, wherein said control unit comprises a pointer for indicating the end of said normal print jobs stored in said queue.

Claim 11 (previously presented): The printing apparatus according to claim 3, wherein said control unit stores the password-attached print jobs towards the head of a single queue, and stores said normal print jobs following said password-attached print jobs, said control unit comprising pointers at the end of said password-attached print jobs and at the end of said normal print jobs.

Claim 12 (previously presented): The printing apparatus according to claims 4, wherein said control unit comprises a pointer for indicating the end of the password-attached print jobs stored in said queue.

Claim 13 (previously presented): The printing apparatus according to claim 5, wherein said control unit comprises a pointer for indicating the end of said normal print jobs stored in said queue.

Claim 14 (previously presented): The printing apparatus according to claims 2, wherein said control unit stores the password-attached print jobs towards the head of a single queue, and stores said normal print jobs following said password-attached print jobs, said control unit comprising pointers at the end of said password-attached print jobs and at the end of said normal print jobs.

Claim 15 (currently amended): A printing method that is employed, during printing of normal print jobs for which no password entry is required, upon entry of ~~one or more~~ a plurality of passwords, ~~that each correspond to a~~ of which is a password associated with a single password-attached print job, which ~~has~~ have been stored in print hold status and for which password entry is required, the method comprising the steps of:

verifying that each of the entered passwords is a valid password for a corresponding password-attached print job; and

printing each of the password-attached print jobs in order of valid password entry and after completion of the printing of the normal print jobs under printing, for which no password entry is required,

wherein upon entry of valid passwords, the printing of each of the password-attached print jobs is carried out in preference over the other normal print jobs, for which no password entry is required, that are waiting for print.

Claim 16 (currently amended): A printing method for sequentially printing a plurality of password-attached print jobs for which password entry is required, the method comprising the steps of:

verifying, during printing of a first password-attached print job for which password entry is required, upon entry of a password for a second or subsequent password-attached print job that has been stored in print hold status, that the entered password is a valid password for the second or subsequent password-attached print job; and

printing the second or subsequent password-attached print job for which said valid password has been entered after the printing of the first password-attached print job is completed, ~~wherein the second or subsequent password-attached print job is carried out after a predetermined amount of time has elapsed since the completion of the printing of the first password-attached print job.~~

Claim 17 (currently amended): A printing method that is employed, during printing of normal print jobs for which no password entry is required, upon entry of a plurality of passwords, each of which is a password associated with a single ~~for printing one or more~~ password-attached print

~~jobs~~ job for which password entry is required ~~during printing of normal print jobs for which no password entry is required~~, the method comprising the steps of:

displaying a list of plural password-attached print jobs, which are stored in print hold status;

verifying, upon entry of a password for any of the password-attached print jobs stored in print hold status, that the password is a valid password for one of the password-attached print jobs; and

printing each of the password-attached print jobs in order of password entry, wherein printing of each of the password-attached print jobs for which valid passwords are entered is carried out in preference over the normal print jobs that are waiting for print.

Claim 18 (currently amended): A printing apparatus for printing plural print data items transmitted from a host device in order of reception, said apparatus comprising:

a queue management unit for holding password-attached print data transmitted from said host device until ~~said passwords~~ is-are entered; and

a control unit for, upon entry of a ~~password for password-attached print data that are being held~~, a plurality of passwords, each of which is associated with a single password-attached print job, a plurality of said jobs being held, sequentially printing the password-attached print data in order of password entry and in preference over normal print data, for which no password entry is required, that are waiting for print.

Claim 19 (currently amended): A printing apparatus for carrying out the printing of normal print jobs, for which no password entry is required, in order of reception while putting plural password-attached print jobs, for which password entry is required, in print hold status, said apparatus comprising:

an input unit via which a password for a password-attached print job is entered; and
a control unit whereby the print hold status of said password-attached print jobs whose passwords agrees-agree with the passwords entered via said input unit ~~is-are~~ all released, and the printing of said password-attached print jobs is carried out in order of password entry and in preference over the normal print jobs that are waiting for print.

Claim 20 (previously presented): The printing apparatus according to claim 19, further comprising:

a display unit for displaying the password-attached print jobs that are in print hold status when password entry is received via said input unit, wherein

said control unit receives a designation of a single password-attached print from among the jobs displayed on said display unit, compares the password of the designated password-attached print job with the password that has been entered via said input unit, and releases the print hold status of said password-attached print job when the passwords agree with each other, thereby rendering the printing of said password-attached print job possible.

Claim 21 (previously presented): The printing apparatus according to claim 20, wherein said display unit displays a plurality of password-attached print jobs that are in print hold status in such a manner that one of the password-attached print jobs can be designated as the object of entry of the password via said input unit.

Claim 22 (currently amended): A printing apparatus for carrying out the printing of normal print jobs, for which no password entry is required, in order of reception while putting plural password-attached print jobs, for which password entry is required, in print hold status, said apparatus comprising:

an input unit via which a password for a password-attached print job is entered;

a display unit for displaying a plurality of password-attached print jobs that are in print hold status in such a manner that one of the password-attached print jobs can be designated as the object of the entry of the password in said input unit; and

a control unit by which, upon entry, via said input unit, of the password for a password-attached print job that has been designated from among the password-attached print jobs displayed on said display unit, the print hold status of the password-attached print job for which the password has been entered is released and the printing thereof is carried out in preference over the normal print jobs, for which no password entry is required, that are waiting for print.

Claim 23 (previously presented): The printing apparatus according to claim 22, wherein said control unit is adapted to give notice in the event that the password for the password-attached print job designated from among the password-attached print jobs displayed on said display unit does not agree with the password entered via said input unit.

Claim 24 (currently amended): A printing system in which print data transmitted, via a server, from a host device is printed by a printer in order of reception, said system comprising:

a queue management unit that holds ~~the plural~~ password-attached print data items to which a plurality of passwords are attached and which are transmitted from said host device, until said passwords are entered; and

a control unit ~~by which~~for, upon entry of ~~the password~~the plurality of passwords, each of which is a password associated with a single password-attached print job, a plurality of said jobs being held, for the password-attached print data that is being held, the password-attached print data is sequentially printed printing the password-attached print data in order of entry of the passwords and in preference over normal print data that are waiting for print and for which no password entry is required.